

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 03505 01 OF 02 111930Z

70

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CU-04 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06

SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 L-03 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12

NIC-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSR-01 INT-08

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 363

INFO USUN NEWYORK 9155

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 3505

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UN, ECOSOC

SUBJ: 55TH ECOSOC, ECONOMIC COMMITTEE - REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

AGENDA ITEM 9 (A)

1. SUMMARY. ECONOMIC COMMITTEE BEGAN ITS WORK JULY 6 WITH CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEM 9 (A) - REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION. EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS AND DIRECTOR OF UNESOB LED OFF WITH TRADITIONAL PRESENTATIONS OF THEIR ANNUAL REPORTS. STATEMENTS BY THE USSR, US, UKRAINE, CHILE, POLAND, GUINEA, ARGENTINA AND PERU ON JULY 9. NO ACTION REQUIRED. END SUMMARY.

1. STANOVNIK (ECE) BUILT STATEMENT AROUND NEW VISTAS OPENING FOR ECE AS A RESULT OF (A) ACHIEVEMENT OF UNIVERSALITY OF REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP WITH ADMISSION OF GDR, (B) PROGRESS BEING MADE IN CONFERENCE ON EUROPEAN SECURITY WITH ITS RECOGNITION OF THE LINKAGE BETWEEN POLITICAL SECURITY AND ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 03505 01 OF 02 111930Z

COOPERATION.

SUGGESTED THAT "EUROPE OF COOPERATION" DREAMED OF BY FORMER ECE EX SECY MYRDAL DURING COLD WAR DAYS WAS NOW BECOMING A REALITY. LISTED THREE BASIC PROBLEMS FACING THE ECE REGION: (A) THE LONG-TERM IMPACT OF THE GROWTH OF ECE COUNTRIES ON THEIR ENVIRONMENT, (B) THE IMPACT OF THE RESOURCES (INCLUDING ENERGY) SHORTAGE, (C) THE IMPACT OF THE SEVERE MANPOWER SHORTAGE. WITH EUROPE BECOMING MORE AND MORE DEPENDENT ON THE REST OF THE WORLD AND GIVEN THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THE ECE COUNTRIES CAN NO LONGER EXPECT THEIR RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE THIRD WORLD TO BE THAT OF SUPPLIERS OF RAW MATERIALS AND EXPORTERS OF MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS. RATHER THESE RELATIONSHIPS MUST BE BUILT ON THE PROPOSITION THAT POVERTY ANYWHERE IMPERILS PROSPERITY EVERYWHERE. STANOVNIK ALSO RECALLED THE FOUR PRIORITY AREAS WHICH DETERMINE THE ECE WORK PROGRAM AND GAVE SOME DETAILS ON HOW THESE WERE BEING ADDRESSED.

2. UN STATEMENT CONSISTED OF DETAILED, LENGTHY RECITATION OF ELEMENTS OF ECAFE WORK PROGRAM AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING HIS TENURE. HE ALSO CALLED FOR MULTILATERAL ACTION WITH "A LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE" LOOKING TO POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION IN INDO-CHINA. NOTED THAT PRC AND BANGLADESH NOW PARTICIPATING AS FULLMEMBERS AND THAT TTPI AND GILBERT ISLANDS PROPOSED AS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS. UNDERLINED GRAVITY OF SITUATION CAUSED BY DECLINE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND NEED URGENTLY TO DEVELOP AND CONTROL REGION'S WATER RESOURCES AND TO PRESS FOR MAXIMUM BENEFIT FROM THE GREEN REVOLUTION. VOICED CONCERN OVER STAGNATION OF UNDP RESOURCES, NOTING THAT MARGINAL INCREASES ALLOCATED TO ECAFE AREA IN 1972-1973 FAR FROM ADEQUATE TO MEET REGION'S NEEDS. NOTED THAT REGIONAL COOPERATION NO LONGER MERELY EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BUT INVOLVES ESTABLISHMENT OF CONCRETE REGIONAL PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS WHICH ALSO TAKE ACCOUNT OF SUB-REGIONAL REQUIREMENTS.

3. IGLESIAS HIGHLIGHTED WORK OF ECLA CONCERNED WITH R&A, CITING QUITO APPRAISAL AS EXAMPLE OF ABILITY OF REGIONAL MEMBERS TO WORK TOGETHER IN IDENTIFYING PROBLEMS COMMON TO THE REGION DESPITE IDEOLOGICAL DIVERSITY. OTHER MAJOR AREAS OF PROBLEMS OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE TO ECLA INVOLVES RELATIONS EXTERNAL TO THE REGION IN THE PRESENT ECONOMIC AND MONETARY CIRCUMSTANCES. LATIN AMERICA UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 GENEVA 03505 01 OF 02 111930Z

MUST PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN REALIGNING THE EXISTING INTERNATIONAL ORDER. THUS, LATIN AMERICA WISHES TO UTILIZE THE IDS AS AN IMPORTANT VEHICLE FOR GREATER INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. IT MUST DEAL WITH SUCH MAJOR PROBLEMS SUCH AS ENVIRONMENT, TECHNOLOGY, TRADE AND MONETARY REFORM. FOR THE FUTURE ECLA SHOULD CONTINUE TO DEFINE THE FUNDAMENTAL AIMS OF DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY IN LATIN AMERICA; CONTINUE SERVING AS A CENTER FOR DIALOGUE AND ANALYSIS,

AND DEVELOP CLOSE COOPERATION REGIONALLY WHICH MIGHT SERVE AS A TOOL OF BROADER ECONOMIC COOPERATION.

4. GARDNER (ECA) SAID THAT RELATIVELY POOR PERFORMANCE AGAINST THE IDS AND CURRENT TRADE AND MONETARY DIFFICULTIES UNDERLINED NEED FOR GREATER REGIONAL SELF-RELIANCE, WHICH IN PART PURSUED THROUGH SUB-REGIONAL GROUPINGS. DISAPPOINTMENT WITH UNCTAD-III HAS LED AFRICAN REGION TO FOCUS ON UPCOMING TRADE AND MONETARY NEGOTIATIONS. PRIMARY AREAS OF ECA CONCERN CONTINUE TO BE SUB-REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROUPINGS AND INTER-COUNTRY PROJECTS, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT, SOCIAL ASPECTS OF DEVELOPMENT, UTILIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND COMMODITY PROBLEMS.

5. DIRECTOR OF UNESOB (AID EL-NAGGAR) SKETCHED WORK IN R&A, ASSISTANCE TO UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMMING, ATTENTION TO PROBLEMS OF LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, ASSISTANCE TO IDCAS IN PREPARATIONS FOR THE THIRD ARAB INDUSTRIAL SYMPOSIUM, REGIONAL PLANS OF ACTION FOR THE APPLICATION OF S&T TO DEVELOPMENT AND PREPARATIONS FOR FIRST REGIONAL POPULATION CONFERENCE. EXPRESSED HOPE THAT

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 03505 02 OF 02 111931Z

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ACTION IO-14

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NIC-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSR-01 INT-08

TAR-02 /239 W

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R 111605Z JUL 73

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 364

INFO USUN NEWYORK 9156

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 3505

REGION WOULD SOON SEE PEACE SO THAT BEIRUT OFFICE COULD WORK FOR BENEFIT OF ALL COUNTRIES IN THE REGION.

6. IN STATEMENTS BY DELEGATIONS LISTED IN SUMMARY FOLLOWING COMMENTS MIGHT BE NOTED:

(A) NEW SPIRIT OF E-W COOPERATION IN EUROPE OPENED NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR ECE (SOVIET UNION, POLAN); (B) BETTER POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE IN ECAFE REGION WELCOMED. MORE EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO RELAX POLITICAL TENSIONS AND IMPROVE STABILITY IN THE AREA IN PART BY ESTABLISHING COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM IN ASIA IN WHICH ALL COUNTRIES CONCERNED COULD PARTICIPATE ON BASIS OF EQUALITY (SOVIET UNION); (C) REGINAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS HAVE OFTEN BEEN SOURCE OF USEFUL INITIATIVES EVEN WHEN ECOSOC WAS STYMIED (CHILE); (D) ECLA'S BASIC FUNCTION IS TO SERVE AS A FORUM FOR DIALOGUE AND SEEKING CONSENSUS AMONG COUNTRIES WITH DIFFERENT POLITICAL AND IDEOLOGICAL OUTLOOKS (CHILE; (E) PARAS 8 AND 9 OF E/5370 - REPORT ON THE MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE SECREARIES - IMPLIES THAT CONCEPT OF COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY MORE ADVANCED IN DEFINITION THAN IS THE CASE. UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 03505 02 OF 02 111931Z

DISCUSSION OF THIS CONCEPT ONLY AT BEGINNING AND IS STILL SOMEWHAT AMORPHOUS (SOVIET UNION, ARGENTINA, US).

7. US MADE STATEMENT BASED ON RELEVANT POSITON PAPERS. (TEXT WILL BE AIRPOUCHED.) US EXPRESSION OF REGRET AT HAVING HAD TO OPPOSE CERTAIN PARTS OF THE QUITO APPRAISAL, "JUST AS WE REGRETTED THAT IT HAD

BEEN PREPARED BY ONLY THE REGIONAL MEMBERS OF ECLA, WITH NON-REGIONAL MEMBERS EXCLUDED FROM THEIR PREPARATORY EFFORTS "DREW UNANIMOUS RESPONSE FROM CHILE, ARGENTINA AND PERU TO EFFECT THAT LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES HAVE A RIGHT AND INTENDED TO MEET TOGETHER IN ECLA CONTEXT TO ANALYZE THEIR PROGRESS AND PROBLEMS IN RESPECT OF IDS WITHOUT NON-REGIONAL MEMBERS PRESENT. LATTER'S OBSERVATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS COULD BE MADE LATER. CHILE COMMENTED THAT LATIN AMERICA OF 1973 WAS NOT THAT OF 25 YEARS AGO; THAT LATIN AMERICA WOULD INSIST ON BRINGING TO AN END TIES OF DEPENDENCE THAT ARE CONTRARY TO ITS DIGNITY AND HINTED THAT STUDY BY ECOSOC OF REGIONAL STRUCTURE OF UN WOULD BE OPPORTUNITY TO REEXAMINE ORGANIZATION OF ECLA. FOLLOWING ECONOMIC COMMITTEE MEETING IGLESIAS TOLD US DEL HE GIVING FURTHER THOUGHT TO PROBLEM OF RECONCILING DESIRE OF LATIN AMERICANS TO ENGAGE IN R&A AT LEAST INITIALLY WITHOUT NON-REGIONAL MEMBERS LOOKING OVER THEIR SHOULDERS AND LEGITIMATE INTEREST OF NON-REGIONAL MEMBERS IN FINAL ECLA PRODUCT. BASSIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973GENEVA03505
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730741/aaaabdvu.tel
Line Count: 219
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Dec-2001 by thomasv0>; APPROVED <31-Jan-2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 55TH ECOSOC, ECONOMIC COMMITTEE - REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGENDA ITEM 9 (A)
TAGS: AORG, UN, ECOSOC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005